



2829

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Attorney Dkt 65.0272

Kenneth R. WILSHER *et al.*

Group Art Unit: 2829

Serial No.: 10/004,018

Examiner: CHAN, Emily Y.

Filed: October 18, 2001

For: Photoconductive-Sampling Voltage Measurement

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to:

Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on
January 6, 2004.

January 6, 2004

Bruce D. Riter, Reg. No. 27,379

SUMMARY OF INTERVIEW INITIATED BY THE EXAMINER

HON. COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS AND TRADEMARKS
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

The Notice of Allowability mailed December 31, 2003 includes an "Interview Summary" of the Examiner.

Following is applicant's summary.

Examiner Emily Chan called the undersigned on Friday, December 5, 2003 to ask for an explanation of the invention and of how the invention distinguishes US Patent No. 6,614,214. It was agreed to conduct the interview by telephone on Monday, December 8, 2003.

Inventor Kenneth R. Wilsher and the undersigned had an interview with Examiner Chan on Monday December 8, 2003 (rather than "12 August 2003" as incorrectly indicated on the Examiner's Interview Summary.)

Mr. Wilsher explained the problem of persistent conductivity with photoconductive switches as described in the application, and further explained operation of the invention as recited in claims 1 and 7 with reference to Figs. 6 and 8 of the application. In particular, the amplifier having transistors 622 and 624 is switched on for a period Telec by closing switch 626 of gate circuit 620. The signal from PC switch 600 is therefore only sampled when switch 626 is closed.

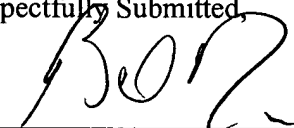
In contrast, US Patent No. 6,614,214 discloses voltage-threshold sampling such that threshold sampler 110 only samples the portion of the PC switch signal (Fig. 3B) which exceeds sampling threshold 176.

Examiner Chan indicated that she had identified a further reference not yet of record which she wished to consider.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge fees under 37 CFR §1.17 that may be required, or credit any overpayment, to deposit Account No. 19-0603 maintained in the name of NPTest, LLC. A duplicate of this paper is enclosed.

January 6, 2004

Respectfully Submitted,



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